

largest professional oncology group in the United States, exists to promote excellence in oncology nursing and the provision of quality care to those individuals affected by cancer. As part of its mission, the Society honors and maintains nursing's historical commitment to advocacy for the public good.

Catherine Glennon has received numerous awards and recognition for her work on behalf of individuals with cancer including the Oncology Nursing Foundation Nurse Administrator/Manager Career Development Award, participation in the Center for Nursing Leadership, and recognition in Who's Who in American Nursing. She has also authored a number of studies and articles on quality cancer care and the nursing shortage that have appeared in several distinguished publications. In addition, Catherine has given numerous presentations to national audiences on a host of cancer care, health, and nursing shortage issues.

Over the last ten years, the setting where treatment for cancer is provided has changed dramatically. Oncology nurses like Catherine are the front-line providers of cancer care with responsibilities ranging from administering chemotherapy, managing patient therapies and side effects, working with insurance companies to ensure that patients receive the appropriate treatment, and providing counseling to patients and family members. Without an adequate supply of such nurses, we cannot provide quality cancer care to a growing population of people in need.

I was proud to support the passage of the "Nurse Reinvestment Act" in the 107th Congress. This important piece of legislation expanded and implemented programs at HRSA to address the multiple problems contributing to the nationwide nursing shortage, including the decline in nursing student enrollments, shortage of faculty, and dissatisfaction with nurse workplace environments.

I commend Catherine Glennon and the Oncology Nursing Society for all of their hard work to prevent and reduce suffering from cancer and to improve the lives of those 1.3 million Americans who will be diagnosed with cancer this year. I am hopeful that growing numbers of young people will follow in Catherine's footsteps and pursue a career in the rewarding and challenging profession of nursing.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL DEYERLE

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I stand before this Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to a dedicated veteran and loving family man from my district. Paul Deyerle of Pueblo, Colorado died recently at the age of 86. Paul's dedication and commitment to his country have left a legacy of leadership that we would all be wise to emulate. I am proud to stand and recognize his accomplishments here today.

As a member of the Army Air Corps in World War II, Paul fought to protect the freedoms we cherish today. Paul also met his future wife Kay during his stint in the army; the couple would later marry and be blessed with three children. When Paul returned from the

war he settled in Pueblo and was a founding member of the Pueblo West Ecumenical Church. At the church, Paul's humorous, loving spirit was evident, and he would later be recognized for the community service he provided his hometown. Paul was voted Optimist of the Year in 1981, 1986, and 1992.

Mr. Speaker, I am saddened by the loss of such a kind and caring individual. The hard work and dedication that Paul has shown to Pueblo and the United States is truly remarkable. It was Paul's selflessness, reliability and positive spirit that have garnered him respect, and it is for those qualities that he has earned my respect. My thoughts and prayers go out to Paul's family and friends. He will surely be missed.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2765) making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes:

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Chairman, I want to voice my vigorous opposition to the proposed legislation to implement a school voucher program in the District of Columbia.

We cannot in good conscience ask the cash-strapped schools in the District of Columbia to impose another layer of bureaucracy on its school system when positive changes are now underway to improve the quality of public education for the most needy of students. Already, the District is showing improvement through its 15 transformation schools which were created using the lowest performing schools attended by the city's poorest students, who have made significant gains in their Stanford 9 achievement scores. Also, the District has shown great success through its 42 charter schools which represent the largest number per capita in the nation. Instead of adding an unproven new program, scarce federal resources would be much better spent shoring up these two popular and proven education options. Why can't Members of Congress and local elected officials in the District focus on funding the programs which are working and are supported by most parents? We should not be in the business of funding risky ventures like school vouchers when public schools are being overlooked for funding. Furthermore, we should not authorize funding school vouchers here in our second home when Congress has already opposed vouchers in the rest of the country. The District of Columbia should not be used as a laboratory for an educational experiment that few if any Members would try in their home districts.

By approving the use of school vouchers here in the District, a competition will be set in motion between public and private schools fighting for the same pool of scarce federal education funding. Any new federal funding should be allocated to schools made accountable to the public—charter schools and the

District's public schools. The three-sector approach in the Senate's companion bill would avoid making private schools accountable, and the addition of funding for public schools seems to be an afterthought in order to push the voucher legislation through. This intent is quite apparent through the Senate bill's attempt to authorize private school vouchers for five years while making only a one-time appropriation to public schools.

Given that the Government Accounting Office (GAO) conducted a study which indicated no difference in achievement levels between students attending public schools and those using vouchers to attend private schools, we would be seriously remiss in allowing vouchers to prevail.

If we care about changing the quality of the District's public schools to truly benefit all children, we must continue to support public schools with all available resources.

TRIBUTE TO FRED SIPE

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to Fred Sipe of La Junta, Colorado. Fred recently retired from Otero Junior College where he taught art, drafting, and computer aided design. As Fred prepares for retirement, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize his many years of hard work and dedication to Otero Junior College.

When Fred arrived at Otero Junior College in 1992, he fell in love with the town and the campus. He quickly began work as an art teacher. Through eleven years at the school, Fred has taught almost every art class the college has to offer. However, Fred did not restrict himself to the classroom; he was known to attend almost every extracurricular event he could. He was considered a regular at art shows, concerts, and athletic events, usually accompanied by his wife Joan.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before this Congress and this nation to recognize the accomplishments of Fred Sipe. His hard work and dedication provided students with the ability to learn about art in new, creative ways. Teaching our nation's youth is truly a noble calling, and Fred's 11 years of service are truly a remarkable accomplishment. Thank you, Fred, for the service you have provided our community. I wish you all the best in your retirement.

RAISE THE MINIMUM WAGE, NOT CONGRESSIONAL PAY

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to voice my opposition to the pay increase that Members of Congress voted to grant themselves during the debate on the Treasury and Transportation spending bill.